

Supervisor Romaine Urges County to Modify Stony Brook Harbor Dredge Project to Improve Navigation

posted on 9/18/2015 3:03:00 PM

Farmingville, NY – – In a September 14 letter to Suffolk County Commissioner of Public Works Gil Andersen, Supervisor Ed Romaine urged the County to modify its plan to dredge Stony Brook Harbor to include a navigational channel to the “Stony Brook Boat Works” property and ending at a point just south of the Town’s kayak/canoe launch. Both properties are owned by the Town of Brookhaven.

In the letter, the Supervisor indicated that the Stony Brook Mill Pond and the creek flowing from it have contributed to sedimentation and restricted the tidal flow, due in large part to the vigorous growth of Phragmites, which have overgrown areas that were once intertidal marshland. This has also caused the creek to slowly lose its navigation ability and its ability to support marine life. In addition, the reduced tidal thrust, has contributed to the degradation of the local environment. He also requested that the Suffolk County Dredge Screening Committee consider the dredging of the area from the Town of Brookhaven’s launch ramp in Stony Brook westward to Stony Brook Creek. He also noted that in the coming weeks, the Town of Brookhaven’s Division of Environmental Protection will submit a formal application to the dredge screening committee to include this and other changes proposed for the future dredging project.

Commenting on the letter, Supervisor Romaine said, “Stony Brook Harbor is an important recreational and commercial waterway that must be made safe for navigation. I am also asking the Stony Brook Task Force and Suffolk County Legislator Kara Hahn, to support my position and help to get this dredging done as soon as possible.”

Division of Public Information * Office of the Supervisor

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